

REMARKS

Amendments to claims 2, 3, 41-44, and 68 are to change claim dependencies. No new matter has been added.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for his courtesy extended to Applicant during the Examiner's interview on January 12, 2007. During the interview, U.S. Patent No. 6,370,255 (Schaub), US 2002/0057814 (Kaulberg), and US 2004/0165730 (Crockett), were discussed.

I. Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 2, 3, and 67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Schaub. Independent claim 67 has been canceled. New independent claims 69, 73, and 78 are being presented in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation provided to Applicant during the interview.

With respect to new independent claim 69, Applicant respectfully submits that Schaub does not disclose or suggest a signal processor that is adapted to generate *a first frequency warped signal* from said input signal, and process said first frequency warped signal according to a hearing impairment correction signal processing algorithm to obtain *a second frequency warped signal*, as discussed in the interview. For at least the foregoing reason, claim 69 and its dependent claims are believed allowable over Schaub.

With respect to new independent claim 73, Applicant respectfully submits that Schaub does not disclose or suggest a hearing aid having a signal processor, wherein the signal processor

comprises a plurality of all-pass filters that are arranged in series, as discussed in the interview. For at least the foregoing reason, claim 73 and its dependent claims are believed allowable over Schaub.

With respect to new independent claim 78, Applicant respectfully submits that Schaub does not disclose or suggest a signal processor that is configured to perform a frequency analysis of the input signal, compute one or more frequency-dependent gains according to a hearing impairment correction algorithm, and use said one or more frequency-dependent gains to produce a frequency-warped output signal, as discussed in the interview. For at least the foregoing reason, claim 78 and its dependent claims are believed allowable over Schaub.


Applicant also respectfully submits that claims 69, 73, and 78, and their respective dependent claims, are believed allowable over Kaulberg and Crockett for at least the reasons that neither of these references discloses or suggests the subject matter of these claims, as discussed in the interview.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, it is believed that, with entry of this amendment, all remaining claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (650) 849-4960.

DATE: February 2, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gerald Chan
Registration No. 51,541

Bingham McCutchen LLP
Three Embarcadero Center, Suite 1800
San Francisco, California 94111
Telephone: (650) 849-4960
Facsimile: (650) 849-4800